Power Guide:
Mac 911
Volume Two

SECRETS

Print Hints

Until the Apple Computer of the twenty-second century devises a way to cram our craniums with data via tiny AirPort implants, we must continue to rely on the printed word. Given the importance of text and the devices designed to edit and print it, this month's *Mac 911* examines ways to edit PDF files, find usefulness in older printers, create virtual PostScript printers, and print in a cross-platform network. I also offer advice for merging iPhoto libraries and ensuring your domestics' tranquility.

Editing PDF
I'd like to extract text from a PDF file and edit it. Can I?
Neil Barker, *Altadena, California*

You have a number of options. The least-expensive (meaning *free*) way is to open the PDF file in Adobe Acrobat Reader (www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html), choose the Text tool, select the text you want to change, and copy and paste it into a text editor for editing. The disadvantages of this method are that you can copy only text (no graphics) and that you'll lose most of the text's formatting when you paste it into the text editor. Of course, you can't use this method at all on files that have been secured to prevent copying.

If you own the full version of Acrobat and the document hasn't been security protected, you can export text by choosing the Save As command from Acrobat's File menu and selecting Rich Text Format from the Format pop-up menu. The resulting RTF file will retain more of its formatting than a file created with the copy-and-paste method, and it will open in applications such as Mac OS X's TextEdit and Microsoft Word.

Another way to save unsecured PDF files in RTF is Metaobject's $20 TextLightning (www.metaobject.com). As with Acrobat, you can save PDF files as RTF files and retain much of the original document's formatting but not its graphics.

Finally, optical character recognition (OCR) apps such as ScanSoft's $500 OmniPage Pro X (♦♦♦½; June 2002; 800/654-1187, www.scansoft.com) can import PDF files (even if they've been security protected), recognize the text and graphics they contain, and export those files as editable RTF files. OCR requires that you do a fair bit of fiddling before it correctly recognizes text in complex documents, but it has the advantage of allowing you to save graphics and text.

Legacy LaserWriter
Is it possible to connect an Apple Personal LaserWriter 320 to a new iMac or Power Mac G4?
G. Brooks Morris, *Slidell, Louisiana*

It is, with the help of a bridging device such as Asanté's $129 AsantéTalk Ethernet to LocalTalk Adapter (800/303-9121, www.asante.com). These devices enable you to link LocalTalk-compatible printers—which include many older laser printers from Apple and Hewlett-Packard—to Macs that lack a printer port.

To make the physical connection, string a standard Ethernet cable from your Mac to the adapter, and a LocalTalk (serial) cable from the adapter to your LaserWriter. Now launch Print Center, click on the Add button, and select AppleTalk from the first pop-up menu that appears in the resulting pane. If it's not already selected, choose Local AppleTalk Zone from the second pop-up menu in this pane. Your printer should appear in the list of available printers. Select it, and click on the Add button to make that printer available to you.

Pretend Printer
Is there a way to create a PostScript file printer with Print Center?
Jon Taie, *Virginia Beach, Virginia*

Before I reveal the trick to doing this, let's discuss why you'd want to do such a thing.

Saving a document as a PostScript file lets you print that file on any computer with an attached PostScript printer—a high-end printer at a printing service bureau, for example. Unless your Mac is connected to a PostScript printer (or, as you'll discover, something very much like a PostScript printer), you can't save a document as a PostScript file. If you don't have such a printer, you must create a virtual one.

To create a virtual PostScript printer, launch Print Center and click on the Add button in the Printer List window. Select IP Printing from the first pop-up menu in the resulting sheet. In the Printer's Address field, type localhost. From the Printer Model pop-up menu, select Generic and click on the Add button.

When you want to save a file as a PostScript document, select Print in the application you're working with—say, Microsoft Word—and then select the localhost printer from the Printer pop-up menu. Choose Output Options from the Copies & Pages pop-up menu, enable the Save As File option, and select PostScript from the Format pop-up menu (see "And Here's Your Localhost!"). Click on Save and, in the resulting Save To File dialog box, name the file and click on Save again.
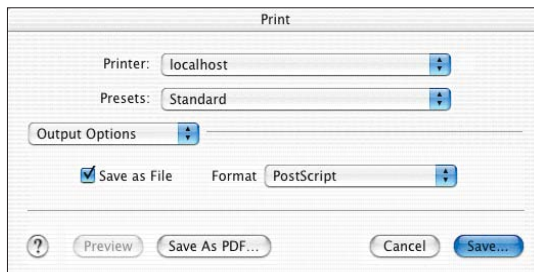
Picture to Picture

I have iPhoto 2 installed on both my iMac G4 and my Power-Book G4. I'd like to move the pictures from iPhoto on my PowerBook to iPhoto on my iMac and maintain the photo album structure I have on both Macs. Is this possible?

Ron Madaras, *San Leandro, California*

Yes, but I've yet to find a terribly intuitive way to go about it. That said, you can try this as-intuitive-as-I-can-make-it method:

Launch iPhoto 2 on the iMac, and click on the Photo Library entry in iPhoto's browser column. If it's not already selected, click on the Organize button at the bottom of the iPhoto window. Click on the Burn button at the bottom of the iPhoto window, and insert a blank CD-R. Click on the Burn button in the resulting Burn Disc dialog box. iPhoto will burn your Photo Library to the disc.

Once you've burned the disc, place it in your PowerBook. Unless you've changed the way OS X handles discs created by iPhoto, your PowerBook's iPhoto will automatically launch. Click on the triangle that appears next

And Here's Your Localhost! Thanks to a virtual printer, you can create a PostScript file from within an application's Print dialog box.

to the CD icon in iPhoto's browser column. You'll see the albums of photos from your iMac.

To create a new album, click on the Photo Library entry in the browser column and then on the Plus button below the browser column. Give that album the same name as the first album on the CD you created ("My Vacation," for example). Then select the "My Vacation" album on the CD, click on iPhoto's main window (where the pictures are displayed), and press ⌘-A to select all the pictures in the album. Drag these pictures to the "My Vacation" album you just created. Your pictures will be copied from the CD to your PowerBook's hard drive.

Repeat this procedure for each album on the CD. Now select Provide iPhoto Feedback from the iPhoto menu and, in your feedback message to Apple, politely request that someone devise an easier way to incorporate the albums in two iPhoto libraries.

RAM-arkable Memory

In OS 9 I kept my Web browser and its cache files in a RAM disk to improve performance. OS X doesn't seem to offer a RAM-disk option. Is there a way to create such a thing in OS X?

Carlton Doerner, *Du Quoin, Illinois*

There is. Point your browser to www.clarkwoodsoftware.com, and download a copy of Clarkwood Software's $25 ram-Bunctious 2.0—a utility that allows you to create a RAM disk in OS X.

Now that you know you *can* create a RAM disk, let's discuss whether you *should*.

If your Mac is RAM starved, don't expect it to be much zippier with a RAM disk—the RAM disk and OS X will squabble over memory allocation, and this will likely negate any performance gains. If, on the other hand, you have RAM to burn, a RAM disk may help. The operating system will have plenty of RAM to work with, and you can

TIP
OF THE
MONTH

With the release of iMovie 3, we were all introduced to the Ken Burns effect, in which you pan and zoom across a still picture. I enjoy the effect, but I don't want to apply it to every still I insert (as iMovie 3 does by default). If you'd like to stop the automatic imposition of this effect, follow these steps:

Using TextEdit, open the com.apple.iMovie3.plist file, found by following this path: ~/Library/Preferences/com.apple.iMovie3.plist.

Find the autoApplyPanZoomToImportedStills entry.

Two lines below this entry (and one line above <key>Option autoSceneDetect: %d) you'll see true. Change this to false.

Save and close the file.

Open iMovie 3 and discover that Ken now comes to call only when you want him to—when you click on the Apply button.

Karl H. Hehr, *Ames, Iowa*

UNSOLICITED ADVICE

Every so often I'm approached by readers who, with a hint of embarrassment, admit that a Windows PC—complete with connected printer—makes up a portion of their home network. In the course of conversation, they invariably ask: "Is there a way for me to print to that printer from one of my Macs running OS X?"

"Why, yes," I respond. "It's like this. . . ."

As a writer for *Macworld,* I feel that it falls outside my purview to explain how you'd share a printer under Windows. But suffice it to say that such a printer must be shared in order for this scheme to work.

Once you've configured Windows to share the printer, open Print Center and, while holding down the option key, click on the Add button in the Printer List window. In the resulting sheet, select Advanced from the pop-up menu. In the Device pop-up menu, select Windows Printer Via Samba. In the Device Name field, enter any name you please— My PC Printer, for example. In the Device URL field, enter *smb://shortnameonyourMac: Macpassword@workgroup/server/sharename*, where *shortnameonyourMac* is the short name you use to log on to OS X, *Macpassword* is the administrator's password you use to log on to your Mac, *workgroup* is the name of the Windows workgroup (Workgroup or MShome, for example), *server* is the name of your PC (Bag_o'_Bolts, for example), and *sharename* is the share name for the printer you've chosen under Windows (HPLaserJ, for example). Now select your printer from the Printer Model pop-up menu at the bottom of the sheet.

When this printer is selected as the default in Print Center and your network is up and running, any documents you print from your Mac will be printed on the printer tethered to your PC.

devote unused RAM to tasks of your choosing— running a specific application and its documents, for instance.

But you can realize benefits other than raw performance gains from a RAM disk in OS X. For example, shoving an application and its working files into a RAM disk could cause your PowerBook to access its drive less often—thus extending the time you can use your laptop under battery power. And those users who run Macs with noisy hard drives will hear less of this incessant mechanical caterwauling because a RAM disk allows the hard drive to spin down more often.

What's in .DS_Store?
Could you explain what the invisible files named .DS_Store are within OS X? It's a nuisance when they show up in a disc made in OS X and used on other platforms or in OS 9.
Tom Unger, *New York, New York*

These files contain view settings—window size and placement and icon position, for example—for the folders that contain them. As you hint, Tom, although .DS_Store files are invisible to those running OS X, the hidden is revealed when folders containing these files are viewed under OS 9 or by a computer running a different operating system

(such as a Windows PC networked to your Mac via Samba).

You can remove these files without ill effect. Command-line commandos can do this via Terminal, by typing sudo find */pathtodirectory/* -name ".DS_Store" -exec rm {} \;, where *pathtodirectory* is the full path to the folder from which you'd like to remove the .DS_ Store file. So if I wanted to remove the .DS_Store file from the Projects folder on my Mac's Desktop, I'd enter sudo find /Users/chris/Desktop/Projects/ -name ".DS_Store" -exec rm {} \;.

If you're uncomfortable with Terminal, you can download a copy of Extraneous Software's free De_DDS (www.extraneous.us/download/De_DDS .tgz). This simple utility will strip .DS_Store files from any folder dropped atop the De_DDS icon.

Networking Nanny
My children's nanny uses her iBook to do her homework when the kids have gone down for their nap. I let her use our AirPort network, but it's configured to use a proxy. The nanny doesn't understand my instructions for turning the proxy off and on in the Network system preference, and she can't connect to other wireless networks because of our proxy settings. How can I make this simple for her?
Ande Root, *Capitola, California*

As any real-estate mogul will tell you, the secret to success is *location, location, location.* Such is also the case with your conundrum. Use the Location settings available within OS X's Network system preference, and moving from one network setup to another will be a breeze.

Launch the Network system preference and select New Location from the Location pop-up menu. In the resulting pane, give the location an intuitive name, such as The Root's AirPort, and click on OK. Now configure the network settings—including proxy settings—for your AirPort network and click on Apply Now.

Create an additional location that includes settings for the nanny's ISP and other wireless networks. Give it a unique name as well.

Now show your nanny that to change settings, she just has to click on the Apple menu within any application, select the Location menu, and then choose The Root's AirPort from the resulting submenu. To return to her original network settings, she can select Automatic from the same submenu. □

Switch, Don't Fight

Former PC users—Switchers—have received so much recent attention that longtime Mac users may feel disregarded: "Hey, I've been using a Mac since 1984! Where's *my* danged banjo-pickin' commercial?" Chin up. In a way, we're all Switchers—from Outlook Express to Apple Mail, from QuarkXPress to Adobe InDesign, from the miserable round mouse to a multibutton rodent. With that in mind, this month's *Mac 911* examines similar switches—moving from AOL to a better ISP, leaving Microsoft Office behind, seeking alternatives to iCal, and swapping out a PowerBook's hard drive.

America Offline

My mom is on America Online and wants to get off. I've set her up with Microsoft Entourage and a new ISP, but she'd like copies of all her stored e-mail messages and bookmarks before she leaves AOL. Is there a way to retrieve them?
Steven Goodman, *Macworld.com forums*

There is, but AOL doesn't make it easy.

AOL uses proprietary formats for its e-mail, bookmarks (termed Favorite Places), and address book. Regrettably, the exclusive nature of these formats renders the import commands in Entourage and Web browsers impotent. Therefore, it takes a bit of manual labor to move messages and bookmarks out of AOL and into a format compatible with other applications.

AOL's e-mail format is the worst offender. To shift her e-mail to Entourage, your mother will have to log on to AOL and forward all her saved messages to her new e-mail address. This is a tedious process, but it provides the minor side benefit of reassuring her that leaving AOL was the right thing to do.

To transfer her bookmarks, she must once again fire up AOL, choose Favorite Places from the Favorites folder in AOL's toolbar, select the bookmarks she wants to transfer, and drag them to the desktop, where each bookmark will turn into a separate file.

Then she must go to www.elephant-place.de/Link Converter, and download a copy of Michael Keuter's LinkConverter. This free OS 9 utility (which also works well in OS X's Classic environment) will allow her to convert AOL's bookmarks into files compatible with today's Web browsers. To convert the information, she can just drag those AOL bookmarks onto either the Link To MSIE or the Link To NAV icon.

Should your mother care to move her address book, refer her to Apple's Older Software Downloads site (www.info.apple.com/support/oldersoftwarelist.html), where she can get a copy of AOL Address Extractor. This OS 9 utility, originally intended to convert AOL addresses to a Claris Emailer–friendly format, will place the contents of AOL's address book into a text file. From that text file, your mother can copy and paste her addresses into Entourage's address book.

Out of the Office

I'm moving to OS X but would prefer not to use Microsoft Office. The problem is that I occasionally have to read and create documents compatible with Word and Excel. What are my alternatives?
Ken Moore, *Ukiah, California*

If you wish to read or create Word and Excel files that contain every exotic bit of formatting the two programs can generate, I fear you have no alternatives. I've found no other Excel-compatible application that can create or read Excel's translucent 3-D charts. Likewise, in any program other than Word, you may find it difficult to view the complete contents of Word .doc files with embedded graphics and movies or tracked changes.

However, if your needs are more modest—if you simply want to create or open no-frills Word or Excel documents—you have a few options.

The first is an application you may already own—Apple's $79 AppleWorks 6 (●●●½; "Office Remodeling," December 2001). Bundled with the iMac, iBook, and eMac, AppleWorks can read and write documents in native Word and Excel formats.

ThinkFree's $50 Office (●●●●; October 2002) is an OS X Java application that reads and writes Word and Excel files in their native formats. ThinkFree Office has been far pokier than AppleWorks 6 on my 933MHz Power Mac G4, but it's perfectly capable of creating and rendering basic Word- and Excel-compatible documents.

If you're interested in exploring a free open-source alternative—and you have a broadband connection capable of handling a 164MB download—check out OpenOffice (www.openoffice.org). Based on Sun Microsystems' StarOffice, OpenOffice is an office suite that can generate and read documents in Word and Excel formats (see "The Other Office"). OpenOffice requires OS X 10.2 and installation of the included X Window System, a set of libraries and programs that provide a graphical user interface in Unix.

In final beta as I write this, OpenOffice includes everything you need to install the suite on your Mac. However, the installation process can be tiresome—six separate installer applications run in a series, and you must enter your administrator's password four times. Once OpenOffice is installed, you'll find that it boots slowly, and that fonts lack the smoothness they have in OS X's Aqua interface. Barring these inconveniences, OpenOffice does a remarkably good job of creating and reading even moderately complex Office documents—better than AppleWorks or ThinkFree Office.
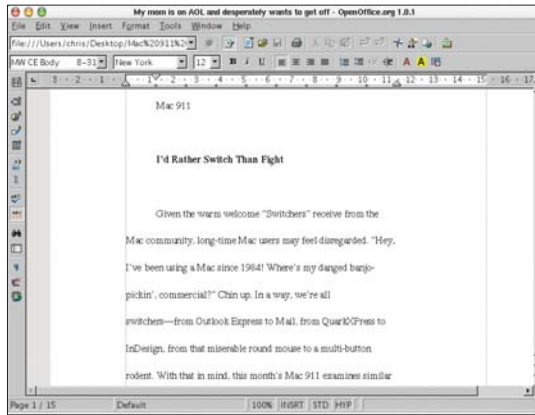
Change the Date
I need a more robust calendar application than iCal, and I'm willing to pay for it. Any suggestions?
Catherine Drozdowski, *Macworld.com forums*

There are three main Macintosh calendar applications. Microsoft Entourage, the e-mail client in the $499 Microsoft Office v. X suite, includes a comprehensive calendar component (●●●●; "Mac OS X E-mail Guide," October 2002). Palm offers the free Palm Desktop 4.0 (●●●; July 2002). And Now Software has the $120 Now Up-to-Date & Contact 4.2.6 (●●●●½; August 2002). Like iCal, they all include such features as alarms, to-do lists, integration with contacts, and Palm synchronization.

I'd start with Palm Desktop for the simple reason that it's free. In addition to costing nary

The Other Office
The free OpenOffice offers your best chance to create and read Microsoft Office–compatible documents if you don't have Office.

a nickel, it's nicely laid out and supports the vCard and vCal standards—thus allowing you to export contact and calendar information easily. Palm Desktop does not, however, allow you to share your calendars or publish them on the Web.

If you own Microsoft Office, you've already got Entourage. The integration of e-mail and contact- and calendar-management within a single application allows you to perform iCal-like operations such as creating a calendar event, inviting a group of people in your Entourage address book to that event, and sending invitations all within a single window. An update slated for this summer will provide greater integration with Microsoft's Outlook Exchange Server—so you can share calendar information with other Entourage users and those who use Outlook on a Windows PC.

Now Up-to-Date & Contact (NUDC) isn't free, but it does allow you to share calendars across a network, thanks to the bundled Public Event Server. By the time you read this, Now may have released an update to NUDC that provides synchronization between NUDC and Apple's Address Book. An update to follow shortly thereafter may add the ability to subscribe to published iCal calendars. Keep an eye on Now's Web site for details as they become available.

The Cloning Kind
I'd like to transfer files from my PowerBook G3's (Pismo) hard drive to a higher-capacity drive. To do this, I bought a 60GB hard drive, along with a FireWire enclosure. I've downloaded Carbon Copy Cloner, and I'm ready to transfer files and make the switch. But I can't find a detailed description of how to do this.
Jim Furlong, *Macworld.com forums*

Install the new hard drive in the enclosure and string a FireWire cable between the enclosure and your Power-

UNSOLICITED ADVICE

If, like me, you install every intriguing utility that appears on VersionTracker.com, the Other portion of your System Preference window undoubtedly brims with preference panes for programs you haven't touched in months. Care to clear the clutter? Here's how.

Navigate to the PreferencePanes folder inside the Library folder at the root level of your hard drive (Library: PreferencePanes). Inside this folder you'll see folders bearing the names of some of the preference panes in System Preferences. Drag those panes you no longer need to the Trash.

Wait, you're not done yet. Preference panes can also dwell within your user folder, so go to Library: PreferencePanes and toss any preference panes there that you no longer require.

You really should be done now, but if you insist on viewing every PreferencePanes folder on your Mac, you'll find one more at System: Library: PreferencePanes. This folder contains Apple's preference panes—items you can't trash without changing the permission settings of the folder. Unless you have a *very* good reason for doing so, you should *not* trash the items in this folder.

Book. Launch Disk Utility (found in the Utilities folder inside the Applications folder), select the Erase or Partition tab (depending on whether you want to format the drive as a single volume or partition it into more than one), and format the drive in Mac OS Hierarchical File System Extended (HFS+) format.

Launch Carbon Copy Cloner (free; www.bombich .com). From the Source Disk pop-up menu in the Cloning Console window, choose a volume on your internal drive that contains OS X. From the Target Disk pop-up menu, select the drive in the FireWire enclosure. Click on the Preferences button; in the Target Disk Option portion of the resulting sheet, select the Make Bootable option—this will allow you to boot from the drive currently inside the enclosure.

Click on Save to dismiss the sheet, and then click on the Lock icon. When asked to do so, enter your administrator's password and click on OK. To copy the files from your internal drive to the new hard drive, click on Clone—and go have a libation while Carbon Copy Cloner does its job.

Once the cloning process is complete, direct your browser to www.macworld.com/2003/01/features/ upgrade/index.html for step-by-step instructions on how to replace your PowerBook's hard drive.

Staying Awake
Is there a way to disable the sleep-activation settings temporarily for specific applications?
From the Macworld.com forums

You mean, for example, for those times when you'd rather burn a DVD with your Mac than create a coaster? Regrettably, I've yet to find a way to tie Energy Saver activation to individual applications.

However, I can offer you a method easier than opening Mac OS X's System Preferences.

That method is Alexey Manannikov's free utility, SleepLess (www.alxsoft.com/mac/sleepless.html). When you launch SleepLess, it produces a tiny, floating palette with a button that reads Never Sleep. Click on this button, and your Mac will have a case of insomnia until you click on the button—which now reads Sleep OK—once again.

Smacking the Ceiling
I urged a friend to upgrade the RAM in his iMac by adding a 256MB chip, even though the manual suggests that rev. A and rev. B iMacs hold a maximum of 160MB of RAM. When we rebooted the computer, the amount of RAM had increased, but only by 128MB. Is there a way to use all 256MB on this iMac?
From the Macworld.com forums

Quite possibly. The first thing you should do is zip over to the Apple Featured Software site (www .info.apple.com/support/downloads.html) and, in the Search For Downloads field, type the words iMac firmware. Before an iMac can exceed Apple's RAM limits, it may need a firmware upgrade. Download the update appropriate for your iMac model and run it. If your iMac already has the latest firmware installed, the updater will tell you so.

If the firmware update does no good, it's time to contact the vendor that sold you the RAM. Although Apple claims some of its models will hold only so many megabytes of memory, they can actually hold more if given compatible RAM. For example, Apple claims that the original iMac can bear only 160MB of RAM when in reality it can embrace as much as 384MB. (My rev. B iMac ticks along quite nicely with 320MB.) The RAM vendor may claim that it supports only those limits provided by Apple. In such cases, ask to swap the RAM for a new chip. If the company refuses to swap, visit TechWorks (800/688-7466, www.techworks.com).

Why TechWorks? When I intend to exceed Apple's limits, I patronize a dealer that advertises its RAM as able to meet the Mac's real limits. TechWorks does just that. If my Mac doesn't recognize all the megabytes I've installed, I have the option to call TechWorks' tech support, politely clear my throat, and say, "Ya know, it says on your Web site that my iMac will hold 384MB of RAM, and yet. . . ." Under these circumstances (which I've never experienced, by the way), TechWorks should do the right thing. □

Contributing Editor CHRISTOPHER BREEN is a recent Switcher—after finally abandoning his blue-and-white Power Mac G3 and moving completely to Mac OS X on a Power Mac G4. He hasn't looked back.

SECRETS

Lamentable Limitations

As the parent of a two-year-old, I've learned that to remain sane, a person has to set limits. Yet as a Mac user, I understand my toddler's tantrums—when my Mac and its applications present seemingly arbitrary limitations, I sometimes react with a grown-up tantrum. If computer restrictions are giving you a case of the terrible twos, join me as we overcome iDVD's 30-second motion-menu limit, short-circuit the Dock's Turn Hiding Off command, capture audio snippets from commercial DVDs, and play Riven and Myst III: Exile without once having to swap discs.

Maximized Motion Menu

iDVD has a 30-second limit for motion menus. I'd like it to be longer. Is there a way to extend the limit to 50 or 60 seconds?
Guy Ivie, *Winter Park, Florida*

There is—with the help of the Property List Editor application in OS X's Developer Tools.

First you need a copy of Developer Tools, included with the full version of OS X 10.2 and bundled with new Power Macs and PowerBooks. With Developer Tools installed, open an iDVD project, create a motion menu, and save the project. Switch to the Finder, control-click on your project file (called *name*

.dvdproj, where *name* is the project's name), and select Show Package Contents from the contextual menu. Open the Contents folder in the resulting window and then the Resources folder inside Contents. Double-click on the ProjectData file to open it in Property List Editor. In the untitled window that appears, you'll see the word *Root* with a triangle next to it. Follow the path of subentries by clicking on the triangles next to these items: Root: Menu Folder: Base Info: Children: *number*: Base Info: Inspection Property List: MotionDuration: Value. The *number* entry varies depending on which menu you're editing; 1 is the default motion menu included with many iDVD 3 templates. Additional motion menus bear higher

numbers (2 would be the second motion menu created, and 3 is the next menu created).

To change the length of time the motion menu plays, double-click on the 30 entry next to Value and enter a higher number—60, for example, causes the motion menu to play for 60 seconds before repeating. Save your changes and close the file. To confirm that your motion menu will play for the length of time you chose, open your project, click on iDVD 3's Customize button, click on the Settings button in the resulting drawer, and make sure the Motion Duration slider is now set to the value you entered. Don't touch that slider, or the duration will revert to 30 seconds.

Dicker with the Dock

In OS 9, I was accustomed to pressing ⌘-option-D in Quark-XPress to invoke the Step And Repeat command. But even though XPress is running in OS X's Classic mode, the Dock's Turn Hiding Off command overrides that keyboard shortcut. Is there a way to get around this?
Rachel Ortiz, *Cicero, Indiana*

You can break the Dock's hold on this key combination with the help of the right macro utility. Using either Michael Kamprath's free Keyboard Maestro (www.keyboardmaestro.com) or Script Software's $20 iKey, formerly known as Youpi Key (www.scriptsoftware.com), you can create application-specific menu shortcuts that allow XPress to Step And Repeat like nobody's business when you press ⌘-option-D. Once you leave XPress, this command causes the Dock to leap about like a jack-in-the-box, as Apple intended.

Movie Manipulation

Can I capture sound bites from DVDs on my Mac? I'd like to use bits of dialogue as alert sounds.
From the *Macworld.com* forums

Amble over to www.rogueamoeba.com and download Rogue Amoeba's Audio Hijack. Among other things, this $16 OS X–only utility allows you to record any audio played on your Mac—a Real Audio stream, for example—and save that audio as an AIFF file. In this specific situation, launch Audio Hijack, click on the Select button in Audio Hijack's window, and choose DVD Player as the target application. Click on the Launch button to launch DVD Player (see "Hello, Jack!"). In DVD Player, navigate to the piece of dialogue you'd like to capture, switch back to Audio Hijack, and click on the Start Recording button. Click on Stop Recording when you've grabbed the goods. Audio Hijack will save the audio it captured as a 16-bit, 44.1kHz AIFF file that you can then play in iTunes.

Trim the sound in an audio editor such as TC Works' free Spark ME (www.tcworks.de) or Felt Tip Software's $50 ($60 on CD) Sound Studio 2.1 (610/293-0512, www.felttip.com). Then save the file with an *.aiff* extension (*.aif* won't do) and drop it into the Users: *your user folder*: Library: Sounds folder. You can now select the file within the Sound system preference.

Audio Hijack Pro ($30) lets you save files as MP3s and supports VST and AudioUnits plug-ins—handy when you want to process an application's sound with effects and equalization.
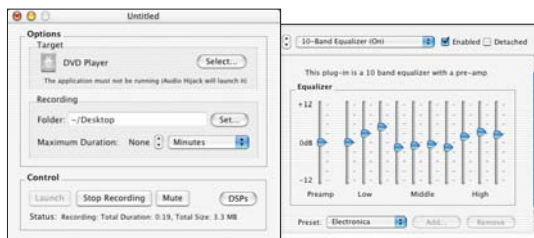
Myst-ery Discs

I'd like to play Ubi Soft's Myst III: Exile on my Power Mac G4, but it's on five CD-ROM discs, and having to repeatedly swap discs interferes with game play. Is there a way I can load the info onto my hard drive and make the game believe all five discs are mounted?

Jeff Fish, *Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*

It's usually a cinch to place multi-disc games on your Mac's hard drive by mounting virtual discs in the form of disk images. Just launch Disk Copy (Applications: Utilities), insert the first disc into your Mac's media drive, and drag it into the Disk Copy window.

In the OS 9 version of Disk Copy, a Save Disk Image As window will appear. Select Read Only from the Format pop-up menu, leave the Size pop-up menu alone (by default it creates an image the same size as the disc you've inserted), and click on Save to create the image. For those of you following along with OS X's Disk Copy, an Image Volume window appears when you drag a disc into the

Hello, Jack! Audio Hijack lets you capture audio from any OS X–native application, including DVD Player and Real's RealPlayer.

Disk Copy window. In this window, select DVD/CD Master from the Image Format pop-up menu, leave the Encryption pop-up menu alone, and click on Save to create your image. Repeat for each disc in the set.

Once you've created images of all your discs, double-click on the images to mount them. Now launch your game and shimmy with delight when it treats those mounted images as the real deal and ticks along without begging for additional discs. To slicken this trick (and save some hard-drive space), burn the images to a DVD-R disc. When you're ready to play your game, insert the DVD-R, select all the disc images on it, double-click on them to mount the images—and play on, brothers and sisters, play on.

And now for the fine print. Although this trick works a treat for most games—Myst III: Exile included—it falls flat with Myst's sequel, Riven. To keep Riven from demanding platter after platter, you must install Riven (creating a Riven folder on your hard drive), open the Data folder on each disc, and copy any files with the *.MHK* extension (p_Data.MHK, for instance) into the Data folder within the Riven folder on your hard drive.

Pasty Faced

Whenever I paste text from my e-mail program into Microsoft Word, it appears in the wrong font with odd paragraph breaks. How can I make it paste in correctly so that I don't have to reformat it?

E. R. Loomis, *Bellevue, Washington*

Word's Paste Special command offers the assistance you desire. The somewhat tedious way to invoke the command is to choose it from the Edit menu, select Unformatted Text in the resulting Paste Special window, and click on OK. Text will appear at the insertion point, with the current formatting for that paragraph.

I term this *tedious* because it requires taking a trip to the Edit menu. To save yourself the journey, do as I did and create a macro. Select Tools: Macro: Record New Macro. Assign a name to the macro and click on the Keyboard button in the Record Macro window. In the

TIP OF THE MONTH

I recently brought a movie I made in iMovie 2 into iMovie 3, created chapters, and exported it to iDVD 3. After burning the DVD, I discovered that the soundtrack was totally out of sync with the video.

After some experimenting, I found that the problem was with the way I'd originally recorded the sound with my DV camera. Like many DV camcorders, mine records sound as 12-bit audio by default. Regrettably, recording at this bit rate can lead to audio-sync problems in iDVD 3.

To prevent the problem, record audio at 16 bits. If you've already recorded at 12 bits, configure your camera to record at 16 bits, export your 12-bit video clips from iMovie back to your camcorder, and recapture them in iMovie.

David Sawyer McFarland, *Portland, Oregon*

UNSOLICITED ADVICE

I'm routinely awed by the usefulness of FireWire Target Disk Mode—the function built into FireWire Macs that allows you to easily access the hard drive on a Mac connected by FireWire. My most recent moment of awe came when I wanted to back up the Users folder on my PowerBook. Said PowerBook lacks a drive capable of burning CDs or DVDs, and I wasn't looking forward to copying 4GB of data to my SuperDrive-bearing Power Mac over a fairly poky AirPort connection.

Suddenly, it dawned on me. Wait a minute—why not string a FireWire cable between the PowerBook and the Power Mac, restart the PowerBook with the T key held down to boot into FireWire Target Disk Mode, boot the Power Mac (where the PowerBook's hard drive will appear as a local FireWire drive), insert a blank DVD-R into the Power Mac's SuperDrive, and burn the Users folder to the DVD?

Why not, indeed? I did. It worked. You, too, might want to try it.

Customize Keyboard window, press a keyboard combination (I chose control-option-V) and click on the Assign button. Click on OK to dismiss the window and produce the Macro Recording palette.

Now run through the procedure I outlined in the first part of this response. Click on the Stop Recording button when you're done. When you next need to paste unformatted text into a Word document, press your macro key combination to tidy up your text.

Security Blanket

I miss OS 9's Password Security control panel. Is there a way I can protect my PowerBook in OS X?

Arthur Melehan, *Detroit, Michigan*

Recent Macs (all iBooks, slot-loading iMacs, FireWire PowerBooks, AGP and later Power Macs, and the Power Mac Cube) let you create an Open Firmware password if your Mac's firmware version is 4.1.7 or higher (you can find the version number in the System Overview section of Apple System Profiler). Open Firmware is a cross-platform standard for controlling hardware on PCI-compatible Macs. Although there's very little mere mortals can do in Open Firmware, even the merest among us can enable a kind of password protection that prevents others from creatively booting a Mac running OS X. Such creative booting includes starting up from any volume other than the one designated in the Startup Disk system preference—for instance, booting from a CD or FireWire drive—or booting into Single User or Verbose mode.

Should a passing rapscallion try to skirt this protection by holding down the C key at startup with a bootable CD in the media drive or by mashing the option key at startup in an attempt to choose a different volume, he or she will encounter a screen that features a large lock icon and a field for entering the Open Firmware password. Anyone who doesn't know it is out of luck—the Mac won't boot.

There are two ways to enable the password. The easy way is to travel to http://docs.info.apple.com /article.html?artnum=120095 and download Apple's Open Firmware Password 1.0.2 utility. Run the utility, select Require Password To Change Open Firmware Settings, create and verify a new password, and click on the Change button.

If for some reason you don't have online access, there is another (though harder) way. Hold down ⌘-option-O-F at startup to boot into Open Firmware. When you see the Open Firmware prompt, type password. Enter the password you want to use for Open Firmware and verify it when prompted. Now type setenv security-mode full. This enables the same level of protection as the Apple utility. Finally, type reset-all to restart your Mac.

To get rid of this protection, either run Open Firmware Password and deselect Require Password To Change Open Firmware Settings, or boot into Open Firmware, type setenv security-mode none, enter your password when prompted, and type reset-all.

Speak the Speech

I'm looking for an inexpensive way to make and edit a voice-over for a QuickTime movie.

Joe Dulak, *Winona, Minnesota*

I perform the very same job each month when I produce Breen's Bungalow, the QuickTime tutorial found on the disc bundled with newsstand copies of *Macworld*. The tool I use is iMovie.

Drag your QuickTime clip into iMovie. (If you're using a version of iMovie prior to 3.X, you must convert the movie into a DV stream with a utility such as QuickTime Player Pro. iMovie 3 converts Quick-Time movies to DV streams during import.) Now click on the Audio button.

Here you'll find controls for recording audio from the input device selected in the Sound system preference. Click on the red Record button and begin your voice-over. If you make a mistake, click on the Stop button, delete the audio file that now appears in iMovie's timeline, and record a new take.

To edit a voice-over, open the movie's project folder and then the Media folder, where you'll find files with the same name as your voice-over tidbits—Voice 01, Voice 02, and Voice 03, for instance. Edit the appropriate file in an audio editor (such as Spark ME or Sound Studio, mentioned earlier), save it, drag it into iMovie, and position it wherever you like. □

Contributing Editor CHRISTOPHER BREEN is the author of the soon-to-be-released *Secrets of the iPod,* third edition (Peachpit Press, 2003).

SECRETS

Defining Moment

Catalog the component parts of the human body, and you'll find items whose occupation is unclear—the spleen, baby toe, and uvula come to mind. So, too, does Mac OS X contain elements with functions that aren't easily defined. With that in mind, let's explore some underilluminated aspects of OS X, such as services, invisible database files, and shuffled iMovie export options. To round things out, I correct lopsided sound, push the envelopes, and counsel a family in need.

Terms of Services

How do I get the items in the Services menu to work? For example, I want to grab a screen shot, but in every application I've tried, the Grab command's options are grayed out.
Sean T. O'Brien, *Charlottesville, Virginia*

For those readers who've just pulled up the Finder menu's Services command and remarked, "Hey, those services look pretty darned active to me!" I suggest opening an application such as AppleWorks or Microsoft Word and giving it another whirl.

You'll discover that services are serviceable only in applications written in OS X's Cocoa environment, such as TextEdit and Safari. Carbon applications (such as AppleWorks, Word, and Adobe Photoshop) and OS 9 applications, including QuarkXPress and Coda Finale, can't take advantage of services.

The Grab service is even more limited. Services can't create documents, so the Grab service can't act like the similarly named Grab application (or even the ⌘-shift-3 keyboard shortcut). The service can't take a screen shot and save it as a separate document. Instead, the Grab service can only add a capture to an open document in a supported Cocoa application. For example, if you have an RTF (Rich Text Format) TextEdit document open and active, the Grab service can capture the screen and place the resulting capture into the RTF document.

Desktop Database Files

What is in the Desktop DB file that appears when you create a disc image with OS X's Disk Copy? Is it possible to remove that file permanently before burning a CD-ROM or DVD-ROM?
Derek Coller, *Seattle, Washington*

The Desktop DB file is an invisible database file found at the root level of every volume on your Mac. This file contains information about the applications and documents within that volume; it's also the repository for the comments in the Finder's Get Info windows. When you burn a CD, this file—and its sibling, Desktop DF—appear on the disc and cannot be removed.

Although you can't delete the file, you may have some control over what it contains. By default, when you burn a disc in either the Data or MP3 formats with Roxio's $100 Toast 5 Titanium (866/279-7694, www.roxio.com), Toast grabs the Desktop DB file that it deems most appropriate from your Mac and places it on the disc. Were you to view that Desktop DB file with a text editor, you'd discover that it contained—along with strings of nonsensical characters—the names of the applications you use, as well as any URLs stored in the Finder's comments field. As you can imagine, some people would prefer not to spread this information around.

If this concerns you, you can instruct Toast to create an empty database file. Just double-click on the CD icon in Toast's Data window and select the Use Empty Desktop Database option. Even if you're unconcerned about security, you'll discover that invoking this option saves space. I found that leaving this option off resulted in a 612K Desktop DB file on a test disc. With the option on, Desktop DB was a slim 4K.

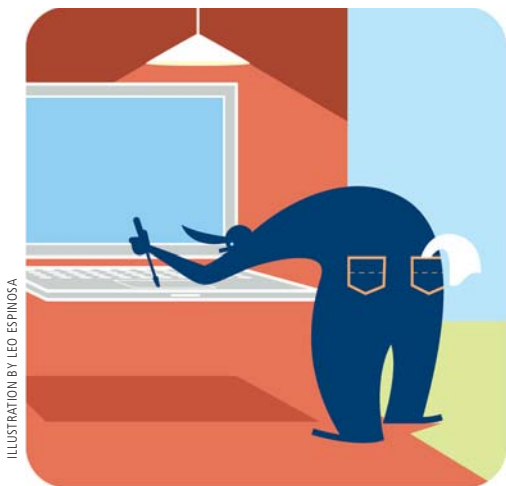Apple's Disc Burner automatically creates an empty database file, so you needn't worry that a

Desktop DB file will give away your applications' names or your browsing habits.

Toast Pointer
I have iMovie 3 and would like to use it with Roxio's Toast to create Video CDs of my movies. When I updated from iMovie 2 to iMovie 3, I no longer saw an option for exporting to Toast. How can I get it back?
Bret Waters, *Oak Hill, Vermont*

As you suggest, in iMovie 2 you prepared your movies for Toast by selecting the Export command from iMovie's File menu, choosing To QuickTime from the Export pop-up menu that appeared in the resulting Export Movie window, and then selecting Toast Video CD from the Formats pop-up menu. Apple, for better or worse, has changed the way the Export command works in iMovie 3.

In the latest iteration of iMovie, selecting the Export command produces the iMovie: Export window. To access the Toast Video CD option, you must select To QuickTime from this window's Export pop-up menu and then Expert Settings from the Formats pop-up menu. Click on the Export button in this window to produce the Save Exported File As dialog box, where you choose Movie To Toast Video CD from the Export pop-up menu. Click on the Option button in the same window to choose the format for your movie (NTSC or PAL). Finally, click on Save in the Save Exported File As dialog box, and you've saved your movie as an MPEG-1 file ready for Toasting.

Unbalanced Sound
While shooting a movie, I used a mono microphone with my camcorder. As I edited my footage in iMovie 3, I discovered that the sound came only from the left speaker. How do I change the audio track so it comes from both speakers?
Robert Rouveroy, *The Hague, Netherlands*

How you approach this problem depends on how much of the movie exhibits this monomaniacal behavior. If the iMovie's entire soundtrack is broadcast from only one speaker, you can easily fix the problem when you export the movie. Just select Export from iMovie's File menu, select To QuickTime from the Export pop-up menu and Expert Settings from the Formats pop-up menu, and click on the Export button. In the resulting Save Exported File As window, select Movie To
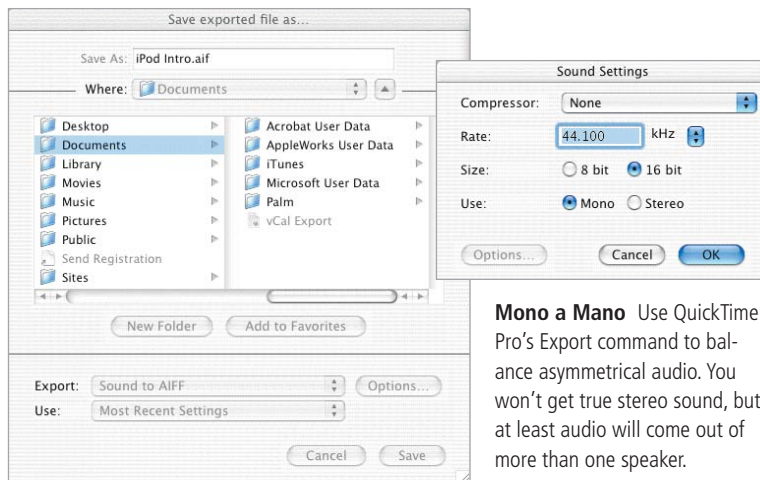
Mono a Mano Use QuickTime Pro's Export command to balance asymmetrical audio. You won't get true stereo sound, but at least audio will come out of more than one speaker.

QuickTime in the Export pop-up menu and click on the Options button. In the Movie Settings window that appears, click on the Settings button in the Sound portion of the window. In the resulting Sound Settings window, enable the Mono option and click on OK in both the Sound Settings and Movie Settings windows. Click on Save in the Save Exported File As window. Your movie will be saved with a mono soundtrack that places all sounds in the middle of the stereo field.

If this problem occurs only with some individual clips—the rest of your movie is in stereo except for selected interviews, for example—the best way to tackle the problem is to quit iMovie, edit those individual clips in QuickTime Pro, and then import them into iMovie again.

To do so, open the project folder for your iMovie. Inside you'll find files labeled Clip 1, Clip 2, and so on. These clips correspond to the video clips you've imported with iMovie. Open the clips that have the wonky audio in QuickTime Player Pro. Select Extract Tracks from the Edit menu, choose Sound Track in the Extract Tracks window, and click on the Extract button. This produces a new untitled QuickTime movie containing the clip's soundtrack. Let's call that file Mono Audio.

With this file active, select Export from the File menu and choose Sound To AIFF from the Export pop-up menu in the Save Exported File As window. Click on the Options button, and in the resulting Sound Settings window, enable the Mono option (see "Mono *a Mano*"). Click on OK to dismiss this window, and click on Save in the Save Exported File As window to save your sound. You've just created a mono audio file with the sound in the middle of the stereo field.

> ## TIP
> ### OF THE
> ### MONTH

Many AirPort users have found that their wireless connection fails when they use a 2.4GHz wireless phone near their networks. This failure happens because the phone and AirPort share the same frequency. Worse yet, these phones prefer channel 6 of the 11 channels available to these devices, and some AirPort networks are set to channel 6 by default. Fortunately, there's a workaround.

Launch the AirPort Admin Utility, click on the Configure button in the Select Base Station window, select the AirPort tab in the resulting window, and choose a number such as 1 or 11 from the Channel pop-up menu. Click on the Update button to update your Base Station, and your interference problems should cease.
Andrew Shalat, *Los Angeles, California*

UNSOLICITED ADVICE

Because I lack the organization gene, over the course of a computing year I often give multiple files the same name—*Mac 911,* for example—and fling these files into every conceivable corner of my Mac's hard drive. If you're similarly impaired, you may depend as much as I do on OS X's ability to find files by content.

But properly doing this requires more than pressing ⌘-F in the Finder, selecting Content from the Add Criteria pop-up menu in the resulting Find window, and entering a couple of words in the Content Includes field. You'll have far better luck unearthing the files you desire if you index any volumes or folders you intend to search.

To do so, select a folder (your user folder is a good place to start) or volume, and press ⌘-I to produce the Get Info window. In that window, click on the triangle next to the Content Index entry. Then click on the Index button. In a few (quite a few, depending on how many files you have) minutes, your Mac will index the contents of all text, HTML, PDF, and clippings files.

To speed the indexing process (and keep the hidden index files this process produces as slim as possible), select Preferences from the Finder menu and click on the Select button that appears below the Languages For Searching File Contents entry at the bottom of the Finder Preferences window. In the resulting Languages window, deselect those languages you don't want to use when searching the contents of your files— Slovene and Afrikaans, for instance—and click on OK.

Now return to the clip file from which you extracted the sound and select Delete Tracks from the Edit menu. In the Delete Tracks window, select Sound Track and click on the Delete button. This deletes the faulty audio file. To replace it with the mono file you created, activate the Mono Audio file by clicking on it, press ⌘-A to select all of its contents, and press ⌘-C to copy them. Click on the clip file, select Add Scaled from the Edit menu, and save the file. This adds the contents of the Mono Audio file to the video clip file and produces a clip whose soundtrack comes out of both speakers. Repeat this procedure for each wonky clip. When you're finished, import the repaired clips into iMovie and vow to never use a mono microphone again.

Belly Up to the Bar Code

I'm looking for software that can print labels and envelopes with a bar code. In the past I used MacEnvelope, but the program hasn't been updated for OS X. Do you have any suggestions?
Mark M. Arias

I can recommend two applications. The first is Scruffy Software's $15 Address Book Reports (www.scruffyware.com/products/digiliferreports/AddressBookReports.html). This utility can generate envelopes and labels with bar codes from contacts stored in OS X's Address Book. In addition, it can neatly organize and print your Address Book contacts into reports styled like phone books and business cards.

Ampersandbox's $20 Imprint (www.ampersandbox.com) is another option that integrates with OS X's Address Book. It supports a wider variety of label and envelope types.

Monitoring the Family

Members of my family refuse to use their own user accounts on our Mac running OS X 10.2.6. Since our Mac automatically logs in with my account, they change my settings and proceed with their work. Fortunately, they typically limit their fiddling to the sound level, monitor resolution, and Dock size.

I can quickly change the sound and Dock back to my preferred settings, but adjusting the monitor resolution is a nuisance because the resolution and refresh rate that I want are not listed in the Displays pull-down menu. Is there an easier way than opening the Displays system preference to access monitor settings?
Tim Collins, *Marshfield, Wisconsin*

Tim, I'd like to take the liberty of providing the solution you seek while also butting into your family's business. Let's start with the solution.

Venture to www.madrau.com and download a copy of Stéphane Madrau's $15 SwitchRes X. SwitchRes places a small icon in the Mac's menu bar that includes *all* the resolutions your monitor is capable of displaying. If you're the tinkering type, you can also ask SwitchRes to display unsupported resolutions. You should be careful with the latter feature, as you could create a setting that your monitor can't display, which can cause some monitors to display a dark screen until you reset the Mac's parameter RAM (by holding down ⌘-option-P-R at startup).

At the risk of causing discord around the dining-room table, I suggest that you avoid this problem altogether by configuring the Mac to require each user to log in with his or her own password. That way Mom's, Dad's, and Sister Bernice's computing environments will be configured exactly the way they like from the minute they log on—no need to mess about with another family member's settings.

To do so, open the Accounts system preference with an account that has Administrator privileges. In the Users section of the Accounts window, deselect the Log In Automatically As option. Now select the Login Options tab and enable the List Of Users option. When you log out, each member of the family will be required to enter his or her own password to log in to the Mac. □

Contributing Editor CHRISTOPHER BREEN is the author of the brand-spanking-new third edition of *Secrets of the iPod* (Peachpit Press, 2003).

Academic Aggravation

In this nation's institutions of higher learning, it seems you can't throw a brick without hitting a Mac. This month's questions—the bulk of which were submitted by academics—underscore how prevalent Macs are in our colleges and universities, and that even the erudite can be perplexed by Mac OS X. So open your blue books and keep your eyes on your own paper as we cover font smoothing, picture cropping, HyperCard stack conversion, clock clicking, enhancing CDs, mail forwarding, and stubborn mailing.

Smooth Operations

The way Mac OS X 10.2 draws fonts on screen drives me crazy. No matter what I do, they appear fuzzy. I would like to turn off the "smoothing" that I believe causes this.
Larry Coleman, *Davis, California*

I'm afraid the magnificence of smoothing is in the eye of the beholder—your clear may be my jagged, and what appears fuzzy to you may seem gratifyingly curved to me. Thankfully, you have a few options for limiting the amount of smoothing (or *antialiasing*) your Mac monitor displays.

To make your letters sharper, journey to the General preference pane. The Font Smoothing Style pop-up menu lets you select a font size at which text smoothing is switched off. Your choices are point sizes 8, 9, 10, and 12. When you choose one of these numbers, smoothing won't be applied to text that size and smaller. You can also select a font-smoothing style—Standard, Light, Medium, or Strong. Sample these settings to see which suits you.

ILLUSTRATION BY LEO ESPINOSA

The OS X versions of Microsoft Word and Excel let you opt to switch text smoothing off within these particular applications. (This option is available only after you download the Microsoft Office v. X 10.1.2 update from http://microsoft.com/mac/download/officex/officex_1012.asp.) In Word, you can find this option by selecting Word: Preferences and clicking on the General entry in the Preferences window. In Excel, go to Excel: Preferences and click on View in the Preferences window.

If these two options don't give you the control you desire, download Marcel Bresink's free TinkerTool 2.32 (www.bresink.de/osx/tinkertool2.html). This utility includes an option that lets you switch off font smoothing in OS X's CoreGraphics—with this option selected, text smoothing in almost all Aqua user-interface elements (and in all Cocoa applications, such as TextEdit and Mail) will be turned off.

Finally, if nothing seems to help, you might consider getting a new monitor. Antialiased text on older, low-resolution monitors looks decidedly dowdier than it does on newer, high-resolution monitors.

Crop Flop

One of the features that kept me using a Mac in Mac OS 9 was SimpleText's ability to crop a picture that had been captured with ⌘-shift-3. Because Preview doesn't have this capability, I have to open Graphic Converter to crop a picture. Is there a way around this?
Kendric C. Smith, Ph.D., *Stanford, California*

Try attacking the problem from the other end—crop your shots as you take them. In OS 9 and OS X, you can do this by pressing ⌘-shift-4. When you do, the cursor becomes a crosshair that you can use to select only the portion of the screen you want to capture. If your goal is to capture a window, menu, or the menu bar, you'll find it easy to do in OS X by pressing ⌘-shift-4 and then the spacebar. This key combination causes a camera icon to appear. Place this camera over a window, a menu, or the menu bar, and click the mouse to capture just that object.

For even greater control, I use Ambrosia Software's SnapzPro X 1.0.7 (graphics-only version, $29; graphics and QuickTime-capture version, $49; 585/325-1910, www.ambrosiasw.com). I can not only capture selections and screen objects as
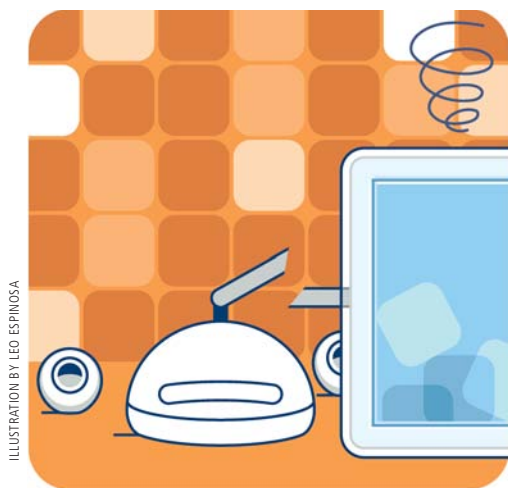
I can with ⌘-shift-4, but also choose the format of the resulting file—something you can't do in OS X, which automatically saves screen captures as PDF files.

Though not as full-featured, eFritz Software's free Snatcher 1.0 (www.efritz.net/software.html) can also capture screens, windows, and selections, and it lets you save your captures in a variety of formats.

Card Tricked

I've resisted moving to OS X because I have a HyperCard Rolodex, with 1,500 entries, that is absolutely essential to my work. I've been told that this Rolodex cannot be transferred to the OS X environment. Is this true?

Paul R. Woudenberg, *Via the Internet*

Not exactly. Although there is no OS X–native version of HyperCard, you can successfully run many HyperCard stacks in OS X's Classic environment.

Should that prove fruitless, you're not completely out of luck if you're familiar with HyperTalk— HyperCard's programming language. Using Hyper-Talk, you can edit the script underlying the stack. Solutions Etcetera's $179 SuperCard 4 (530/644-7382, www.supercard.us) uses a language called SuperTalk, which the company claims is 80 percent compatible with HyperTalk. Even if the language is only 77 percent compatible, the structure of the two languages is similar enough that a modestly competent HyperTalk programmer should be able to tweak a SuperCard stack in the HyperCard stack's image.

On Today's Menu

OS X's Menu Bar Clock displays a shortened day name; the time, divided by a colon; and then AM or PM. I'd also like to see the date, as I could in OS 9—and without clicking on the clock to see the date in gray in the menu below. How can I do this?

Kathy Kiernan, *Los Angeles, California*

You have two options: The super-secret ain't-I-just-the-hackingest-thing-on-two-feet method and the not nearly so much fun but far easier replacing-Apple's-menu-bar-clock method. Let's tackle the first, first.

In order to modify the way the Menu Bar Clock displays date and time information, you must hack the invisible .GlobalPreferences.plist file. This is easier to do if you've installed OS X's Developer Tools (included with the retail OS X package or available separately from Apple for $20)
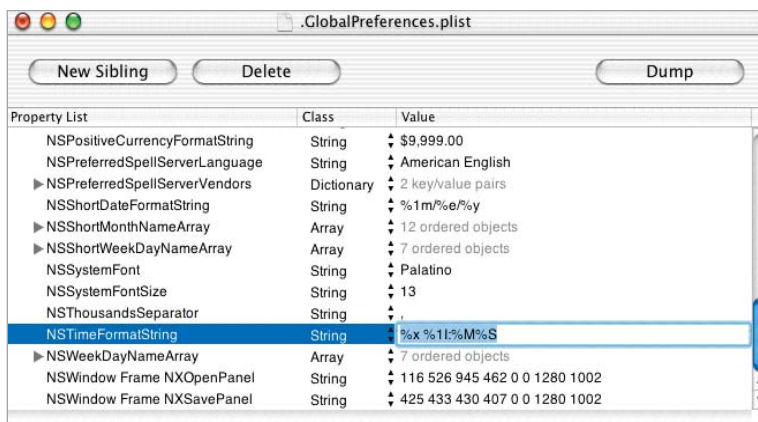
and made the invisible files on your Mac visible with a tool such as TinkerTool. To reveal the unseen, launch TinkerTool, click on its Finder tab, enable the Show Hidden And System Files option, and click on the Relaunch Finder button. The invisible files on your Mac are now visible.

Select Go To Folder from the Finder's Go menu, type ~/Library/Preferences, and click on Go to open the Preferences folder inside your user folder's Library folder. Click once on the .GlobalPreferences.plist file and press ⌘-D to duplicate it so you have a backup copy. Move the backup copy to a safe place so you can restore your hacked file later if you care to. Double-click on the .GlobalPreferences.plist file to open it in Property List Editor (an application that's part of Developers Tools).

Click on the triangle next to the root entry in the resulting .GlobalPreferences.plist window, and scroll down to the NSTimeFormatString entry. In the Value column to the right, you'll see %1I:%M%S—this is the code that tells the Menu Bar Clock to display the time (see "Make a Date"). Change this entry to %x %1I:%M%S (in other words, precede the current entry with %x followed by a space). Press return to enter the change, and then choose Save from the File menu.

Launch the Date & Time system preference, and in the Menu Bar Clock tab, deselect the Show The Day Of The Week option. Now turn the Show The Date And Time In The Menu Bar option off and then on to reset the Menu Bar Clock. The Menu Bar Clock will display the date and time in this format: abbreviated day, abbreviated month, date, year, hour, minute, and AM or PM ("Thu Oct 19 2003 11:12 AM," for example).

If this sounds like way too much bother, get Christopher Wolf's free wClock (www .wolfware.com) or Script Software's fuller-featured, $20

Make a Date Use the Property List Editor application to hack a date into Apple's Menu Bar Clock.

UNSOLICITED ADVICE

If your music collection is made up primarily of popular music, iTunes offers you umpteen ways to sort songs by genre. To see what I mean, select a song, press ⌘-I, click on the Info tab in the resulting window, and click and hold on the Genre pop-up menu. Here you'll find listings for such styles as Alternative, Blues/R&B, Hip Hop/Rap, Pop, Rock, and Country.

Yet if your music library largely includes "art" music, you have a single choice: Classical. If you want to create playlists composed of Italian opera, baroque violin concertos, romantic song cycles, or 20th century serial music, this one Classical entry in the Genre pop-up menu does little good.

It's for this reason that I've added to the Genre entries in my copy of iTunes. You can, too. Just select a piece of music that represents a particular classical style—an aria from an Italian opera, for example. Then open its information window, and type an appropriate genre in the Genre field. When you click on OK to dismiss the window, you'll notice that the entry for that file in the Genre column changes to reflect the style you just created. Repeat this procedure with any music file that represents a style you wish to add to the Genre menu.

To avoid assigning a new style to each piece of music individually, shift- or ⌘-click on entries in the iTunes window that you'd like to assign a particular genre to, press ⌘-I to bring up the Multiple Song Information window, and choose one of your new Genre entries. When you do, that genre will be applied to each selected piece of music.

iClock (www.scriptsoftware.com). Each utility can display both the date and time in the menu bar.

A Disc with Something Extra
My friend and I made a music video with iMovie to accompany my friend's music. We'd like to burn a CD that has both the music and video on it, as is done with CD-Extra discs you find in the store. How do you create such a disc?
Alexander Knight, *Seattle, Washington*

What you're describing is a multisession disc that follows the Blue Book (or Enhanced CD) specification. These discs—known as CD-Extra or CD-Plus discs—contain a mix of audio and data, with the audio portion stored in the first session and data stored in the second session. On the Mac, the tool you use to create these sessions is Roxio's Toast 5 Titanium ($100; $90, download; 866/280-7694, www.roxio.com). Here's how:

Click on the Audio button in the Toast window, and add the audio files you want. Insert a blank CD-R disc and click on the Record button. In the resulting Record window, click on Write Session and wait while the audio files burn to the CD.

When the session has been burned, click and hold on the Other button and select ISO-9660 from the menu. Drag the video (and any other data files you want to put on the disc) into the Toast window. Click on the Record button; in the Record window, click on Write Disc. Wait for Toast to burn your disc.

When you insert the finished disc into a standard audio CD player, it will play the audio tracks and ignore the portion of the disc that contains your movie. When you shove the disc into a computer, it will mount as two volumes—an audio CD with the audio tracks and a data CD with the movie.

Forward March
My son receives a lot of e-mail from his newsgroup, and I forward it to him at work. With Eudora under OS 9, I could forward all the messages easily and individually. OS X's Mail lumps all the messages into a single message, and my son complains that messages formatted this way are hard to read. Is there some way to easily and quickly forward a number of messages individually?
Jim Ward, *Berkeley, California*

Here's how to forward this mail automatically: Select Preferences from the Mail menu and click on the Rules button in the window that appears. Click on the Add Rule button. In the resulting window, select a criterion to identify messages from the newsgroup—the list's From Address, for example—and enter that information in the If portion of the window. In the Perform The Following Actions area, select Forward Message from the pop-up menu, and enter your son's e-mail address in the To field.

Mail Flawed
While setting up OS X's Mail, I created several false e-mail account addresses. When I attempt to send messages, Mail invariably picks one of these useless accounts, even though I've deleted them from the Accounts portion of Mail's preferences. How can I permanently remove these accounts?
Jascha Kessler, *Los Angeles, California*

If you have the right tool, it's possible to eliminate these effluvia. Thankfully, Apple includes just the right tool in the Library folder at the root level of your OS X volume.

Select Go To Folder from the Finder's Go menu, and type /Library/Scripts/Mail Scripts. Double-click on the Manage SMTP Servers.scpt file within the Mail Scripts window that appears. When the script opens in Script Editor, click on the Run button. A window will appear that states, "Choose one or more SMTP servers to delete. None of these servers are being used by your POP or IMAP accounts." Select the accounts you want to vaporize, and click on OK. If all goes as planned, the nuisance accounts will be gone. □

Contributing Editor CHRISTOPHER BREEN is the author of *Secrets of the iPod*, third edition (Peachpit Press, 2003).

HELP DESK

Mac 911

IF YOU'RE VEXED BY MENU-BAR ITEMS THAT WON'T GO away and the hard-drive space annexed by unnecessary language files, this month's *Mac 911* is for you. Join me as I detail handy methods for remov-ing extraneous items. I also address syncing e-mail with Palms and converting audio files for Final Cut Pro.

Ejecting Eject

Rob Griffiths describes how to add an Eject icon to the Mac's menu bar in "Mac OS X Hints" (*Secrets*, August 2003). But he didn't provide instructions for removing it. Please advise.

Matt Palomares, *Asheville, North Carolina*

UNSOLICITED ADVICE

If, like me, you tend to visit the same collection of Web sites each morning, the follow-ing technique will save you multiple trips to Safari's Bookmarks menu.

Launch Safari and make sure the Enable Tabbed Browsing option is selected in the Tabs section of Safari's preferences. Click on the Bookmarks button and create a new folder (⌘-shift-N). Give the folder a descriptive name (mine is called Morning Mix), and copy the bookmarks of your favorite Web sites into it. Click on the Bookmarks Bar entry in the Collections column of the Bookmarks window, and drag your new folder into Safari's main window. Enable the Auto-Tab option next to the folder in this window. When you next sit down at your Mac, click on this folder (which now appears in the Bookmarks Bar) and howl exultantly as each site within the folder opens in a separate tab.

Armchair Traveler Do you like to visit the same sites each morning? Make Safari do the hunting and gathering for you.

To remove almost any item from the Finder's menu bar (except commands such as File, Edit, and View, which you can't remove by this method), just ⌘-click on the item you'd like to eliminate and drag it to the Desktop. The resulting puff of smoke and "whoosh" sound effect indicate that the menu item has hit the road. Note that this procedure doesn't trash the orig-inal MenuExtra plug-in, it merely removes its icon from the menu bar.

You can also use this shortcut to drag items to a new position on the menu bar.

Lost Languages

The tip for freeing up disk space by deleting language files was helpful ("Mac OS X Hints," *Secrets*, August 2003). Can I do the same kind of thing by using Find to locate the offend-ing language files (searching for da.lproj, for example) and deleting them all at once?

Mei Chau Hayes, *Bedford, New Hampshire*

Although you can find such .lproj files with the Finder's Find command, you can't throw them away because you don't have the proper permissions to do so. Many of these files are owned by the root user and are forbidden to you.

Thankfully, a host of free utilities can strip extra-neous language files from OS X volumes (see "Delet-ing Dialects"). Among them are Mike Bombich's DeLocalizer (http://software.bombich.com), Joshua Schrier's Monolingual (http://homepage.mac.com/jschrier/index.html), and Philippe Hupe's Youpi Optimizer (http://perso.club-internet.fr/phupe/english/YOIndex.html).

Portable Post Office

I sync Microsoft Entourage with my Palm Tungsten T and my Mac. This is great for my contacts but not for e-mail. How can I sync my e-mail with the Palm so that I can work with it while I'm offline?

Eli Zakay, *Macworld.com forums*

For this kind of thing, I use Ligature Technologies' Mail Courier ($25; www.ligaturetech.com). Mail Courier is made up of a conduit, the Ligature Mail application that you install on your Palm, and an AppleScript that copies mail between the devices. Within Palm's HotSync Manager (in the Conduit
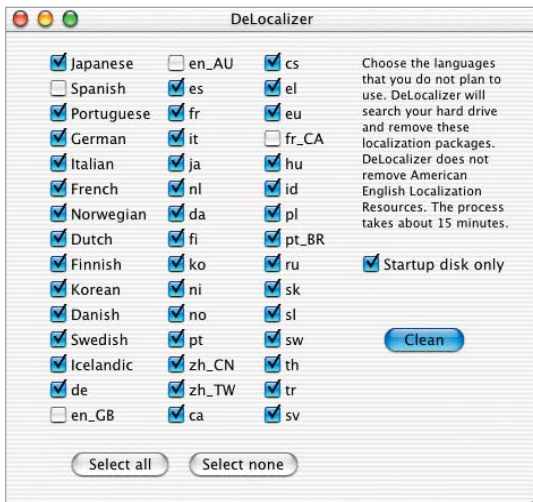
Deleting Dialects Strip away hundreds of megabytes of unnecessary foreign-language files with a utility such as DeLocalizer.

Settings window) you configure the program to synchronize Entourage's e-mail database on the Mac and the Palm, overwrite the messages on the Palm with those on the Mac, or overwrite the messages on the Mac with those on the Palm. In Ligature Mail you browse your Entourage e-mail, reply to it, and create new messages. The next time you run HotSync, any messages you create on the Palm are copied to your Mac, ready for sending from Entourage. Ligature Mail displays only text and doesn't synchronize attachments, and each message has a size limit of 32K (anything larger will be truncated).

Mail Courier is a viable solution to your problem only if you regularly toss out your old e-mail. The program doesn't let you choose which e-mail messages it synchronizes—it's either *all* the mail in your Inbox, Outbox, Deleted Items, Filed Mail, Drafts, and Sent Items mailboxes, or nothing. That's perfectly ducky with me when I'm on the road with my PowerBook—which holds just the e-mail I need for my travels—but I'd never use it at home, where my Entourage Inbox contains thousands of messages.

iPod Is as iPod Does
Before I sold my iMac G4, I installed Jaguar on my 30GB iPod and moved most of the contents of my iMac's hard drive to it. When I need a Mac, I borrow my roommate's PowerBook and boot from the iPod. However, I would still like to use the iPod as an iPod—sync my contacts, calendars, and music. Is this possible when you're booting a computer from the iPod?
Greg Lindus, *Fort Collins, Colorado*

Sure, a booted iPod is more than happy to perform its primary functions. Bear in mind, though, that if the iPod's music library is linked to your old iMac, you'll lose your songs if you allow the Power-

Book to automatically update the iPod. For this reason, you should configure the iPod for manual updating.

To choose this option, open iTunes, click on the iPod's icon in the Source list, click on the iPod Preferences icon that appears at the bottom right of the iTunes window, and, in the resulting iPod Preferences window, enable the Manually Manage Songs And Playlists option. To add songs to your iPod, drag them from the iTunes library to the iPod (or to a playlist on the iPod).

Camera Capers
When I connect my digital camera to my Mac via USB, Apple's iPhoto automatically opens. I use Adobe Photoshop to manipulate my photos and would like it to open when I connect the camera. I've explored both iPhoto's preferences and System Preferences to find a way to achieve this, but I've been unsuccessful. Can you help?
Robert Steven Connett, *Mount Washington, California*

You're right to look to a preference to direct Photoshop to open when you connect your camera, but you've missed the appropriate application. That application is Image Capture (found inside OS X's Applications folder). Launch Image Capture, choose Preferences from the Image Capture menu, and in the resulting window select Other from the Camera Preferences pop-up menu. In the sheet that appears, navigate to your copy of Photoshop, select it, and click on Open. When you connect your camera in the future, Photoshop should launch. □

TIP OF THE MONTH

You want to include that great tune you purchased from the iTunes Music Store in a video you're editing in Final Cut Pro 4. But Final Cut Pro won't import the file, and QuickTime Pro can't convert a protected file into the required AIFF format. You could burn the file to CD and then import it into iTunes as an AIFF file, but why bother when iMovie can convert the file for you?

Open a new iMovie project and click on the Audio button. Drag the song you want from the iTunes Library window into the timeline. Save the project and then choose Export from the File menu. Choose To QuickTime from the Export pop-up menu and Expert Settings from the Formats pop-up menu. Click on the Export button and, in the resulting Save Exported File As dialog box, choose Sound To AIFF from the Export pop-up menu. Click on Save to convert the movie to an AIFF sound file.

When the conversion is complete, quit iMovie and import the converted sound file into Final Cut Pro.

Eric Dietrich, *Kettering, Ohio*

Contributing Editor CHRISTOPHER BREEN is the author of several books. The most recent is *Secrets of the iPod*, third edition (Peachpit Press, 2003).

HELP DESK

Mac 911

DO YOU RUE THE RANGE OF YOUR GRAPHITE BASE STATION, seek softer cell-phone ring tones, find PC viruses vexing, or loathe the limitations of your iTunes music library? There's no need to feel hemmed in by transitory travails when help is at hand. This month's *Mac 911* gives you a beneficial boost over each of these barriers.

A More Expansive AirPort

I got everything ready to attach an antenna to my AirPort Base Station as described in "The Do-It-Yourself Mac" (August 2003). When I removed the Base Station's cover, the interior was not as shown in the article. How can I add an antenna to my Base Station?

Jo Hauser, *Ottawa, Ontario, Canada*

Those instructions are for the second-generation (snow) AirPort Base Station. The original (graphite) AirPort Base Station is a different beast, as you discovered when you pulled yours apart. But don't be discouraged—you can extend the range of these Base Stations, too.

The procedure is a bit more complicated with these older models, but it's well within the abilities of people who are even modestly handy with a screwdriver. I don't have the space to provide step-by-step instructions on how to perform this operation, but Constantin von Wentzel gives directions for upgrading all three Base Station models (graphite, snow, and Extreme) at www.vonwentzel .net/abs/extendedgraphite/index.html.

A Mite Less MIDI

I just bought a cell phone that uses MIDI files for its ring tones. I know I can move MIDI files to the phone to create new ring tones, but many of the files I've found are really loud when played through the phone's speaker. Is there an inexpensive application that can lower the volume?

Navarro Parker, *San Diego, California*

Although I couldn't find an OS X–native MIDI editor that would do the job for less than $70, I discovered that Masao Maeda's $20 multitrack MIDI sequencer, MIDIGraphy (http://member.nifty.ne .jp/mmaeda/e/macos.html), worked perfectly well in the Classic environment.

The trick to making these MIDI files quieter (or louder) is to adjust the tune's *velocity data*. The what? MIDI devices track how hard you hit a key on your MIDI controller. The harder you hit, the higher the velocity number, and the louder your sound. To change that velocity, just select the Pencil tool from the first pop-up menu at the bottom left corner of the MIDIGraphy window, and then select the Scale command from the second pop-up menu. Locate the Velocity track, and draw a straight line across its entire length. A line higher than the track's current velocity makes the track louder. A line lower than the current velocity decreases the volume.

Choose Export from the File menu, and select the SMF Format 0 option. Name the file so that it ends with the *.mid* extension, copy it to your phone via Bluetooth or a data cable, select that song as your ring tone, and rock out—at a reasonable volume—the next time you get a call.

What's Mine Is Mine

I have a large CD library and have ripped it to MP3 format in iTunes. My wife has a similarly expansive CD library that I want to rip, but I don't want to save them in my iTunes library. Is there a way in iTunes to make a separate library, not just another playlist for her songs?

Jon Medley, *Tokyo, Japan*

UNSOLICITED ADVICE

Speaking of iTunes libraries, you're likely aware that Apple's Rendezvous technology allows you to share your iTunes tunes with other Macs on the same network. But how do you access the iTunes library of another user—your housemate, for example—who also maintains an account on your Mac? Through the clever manipulation of permissions. Here's how:

Log on as an administrator, open the other person's user folder, and click once on his or her Music folder. Press ⌘-I to produce the Music Info window. Click on the triangle next to the Ownership & Permissions entry and click on the Lock icon. From the Owner pop-up menu, select your current identity—chris (Me), for example. In the Group area of the window, select Staff (Me) from the first pop-up menu, and change the Access pop-up menu to Read Only. Change the entry in the Owner pop-up menu back to its original owner, and then close the Music Info window.

Launch iTunes 4 and select Preferences from the iTunes menu. Click on the Advanced button and deselect the Copy Files To iTunes Music Folder When Adding To Library option; then click on OK. Select Add To Library from iTunes' File menu, navigate to the other user's folder (Music: iTunes: iTunes Music) in the Add To Library window, and click on Choose. This will add the songs from the other user's library to your iTunes library without creating additional copies of the songs in your iTunes Music folder.

Yes, with the help of Doug Adams's $5 iTunes Library Manager (www.malcolmadams.com/itunes/itinfo/ituneslibrarymanager.shtml). This AppleScript applet allows you to create multiple iTunes libraries.

Just copy iTunes Library Manager in the Scripts folder found your user folder's Library: iTunes: Scripts folder, and launch iTunes 4; you can create a Scripts folder if one doesn't exist. Select iTunes Library Manager from the AppleScript menu. In the resulting window, click on Save to save a copy of your library and then name that library (Bubba's Tunes, for instance). Now create a new library by selecting iTunes Library Manager once again, clicking on Save, and saving your library under a different name (Libby's Library, for example)—when you do, the songs in the current library remain. Delete any songs and playlists you don't want to appear in your wife's library. iTunes will ask if you'd like to throw these files into the Trash. Do *not* allow this. You want to remove the title entries in iTunes, not the songs themselves.

Now start ripping CDs into your wife's library. When you're done and want to return to your library, choose iTunes Library Manager yet again, click on the Load button, and select your original library. iTunes will quit and relaunch, revealing all the tunes in your library but not those in your wife's library. Follow the same procedure to switch to her library.

Secondary Infection

I've been slammed with returned messages generated by PCs reacting to a Windows virus. Is there anything I can do to protect myself?

Duane Harris, *Camden, Ohio*

Although Macs aren't directly affected (or infected) by Windows-specific computer cooties such as the Sobig.F worm, they nonetheless suffer two kinds of collateral damage.
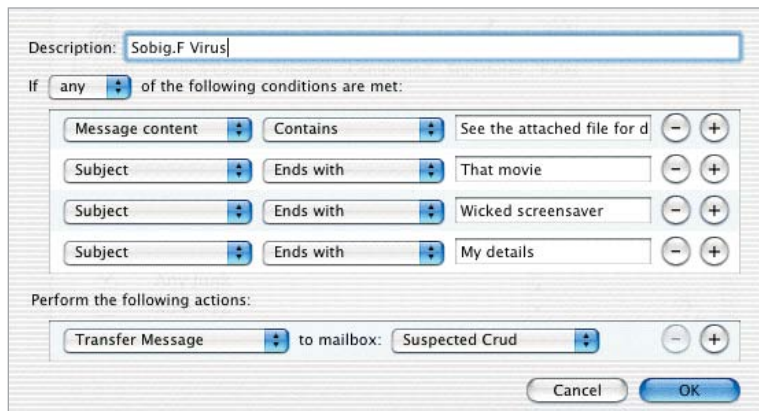
The first is a flood of spam messages from infected PCs. The second is the deluge of bounced messages you receive because the worm pulls an address at random from an infected PC's address book and places it in the message's From field (this technique is called spoofing). That address may be yours, and you suffer the consequences when a message bounces back because the recipient doesn't exist or an ISP "helpfully" alerts you to the presence of a virus.

Antivirus utilities can't help because your Mac isn't infected. What will help is your e-mail client's filtering capabilities. You can filter a worm such as Sobig.F in a couple of ways. You can ask your e-mail client to move any messages whose subject heading ends with a particular phrase—"That movie," "Wicked screensaver," or "My details," for example—to a Suspected Crud folder you've created. Choosing the end-with option is also useful for filtering out messages that an ISP has bounced back—"Re: That movie," for instance. If the infected message carries a particular line of text—Sobig.F messages included "See the attached file for details"—add a condition to the filter that moves any messages containing that text into your Suspected Crud folder (see "Rerouting Rubbish").

To filter spoofed messages, create another filter that looks for messages whose subject headings include the phrase "Returned mail" or messages sent by MAILER-DAEMON (the address of an automated system that many ISPs use). Note that such messages are sometimes legitimate—notifying you that a message you've sent can't be delivered—so unless you're experiencing an onslaught of bounces, scan these messages before deleting them. □

Rerouting Rubbish
An e-mail filter such as this can unclutter your in-box.

HELP DESK

Mac 911

ALTHOUGH THIS MONTH'S *MAC 911* FAILS TO TURN STRAW into gold, water into wine, or frogs into princes, it does offer slightly less-miraculous methods for converting your old Netscape bookmarks into bookmarks for the current Netscape, turning slide shows into Web pages, and dividing drawn-out discourses.

Change of Address

I've collected several hundred URLs in Netscape 4.7 by dragging and dropping the small icons at the left end of the Location field onto the desktop (where they turn into bookmark files). Then I upgraded to Netscape 7. Now when I double-click on one of the old icons, it opens as a file in Netscape, rather than directing my browser to the site. Is there a way to convert my older bookmarks to work with Netscape 7?
A. E. Siegman, *Stanford, California*

There is. Download, install, and launch a copy of Alco Blom's $25 URL Manager Pro (www.url-manager .com). Create a new folder by selecting New Folder from the Bookmarks menu, and give it an intuitive name such as Convert. Drag your URLs into this folder and, once they appear, drag them right out again. This converts them into Web Internet Location files. Double-click on one of these files, and your default Web browser will launch and whisk you to the Web site associated with that URL.

Picture Disc

I read an article in a recent issue of *PC Magazine* that described how to create an HTML file with relative links to photos on a CD-ROM. It contained a lot of HTML code. Is there an easier way to do this on the Mac?
John Peterson, *Manhattan Beach, California*

This can be more difficult on a PC because of Windows' insistence on assigning letters to media drives and hard drives. If you use Windows' regular file shortcuts, they may point to the pictures on the PC's hard drive rather than to the files you've burned to the disc.

And that, dear John, is Why Windows Stinks: Reason 9,862. There's no need to write a single smidgen of HTML code to accomplish this task on a Mac. Just launch iPhoto 2, select the photos you'd like to add to your disc, and select the Export command from iPhoto's File menu. In the resulting Export Photos window, click on the Web Page tab and enter a title for your photo album in the Title field (MyCoolPix, for example). If you care to, change the settings for the number of columns and rows of pictures, as well as for the size of the thumbnails and images, on the HTML pages iPhoto generates. Click on the Export button; in the sheet that appears, create a new folder to store the HTML files in. Select this new folder and click on OK. Your collection of photos will be saved as a series of HTML index files that display thumbnails of your pictures, as well as folders that contain those thumbnails and the full image files.

Insert a blank CD, copy the folder you created to the CD, and burn the CD. To browse the finished CD, simply shove it into a Mac or a PC and double-click on the index page (which, using the earlier example, would be called MyCoolPix.html). The computer's default browser will open, revealing the first page of the index, replete with thumbnails of your pictures. Click on a thumbnail to view the full image.

Short Clips

When I make an iMovie film, I like to archive it to DV tape. I occasionally need to edit an archived movie, but when I capture it into iMovie, the program automatically divides it into clips. Is there any way to make iMovie capture the movie into a single video clip?
Jeffrey Johnston, *Toronto, Ontario, Canada*

It depends on the length of your video. iMovie creates new clips when it detects a scene change—a convenient feature when you capture raw footage, but not desirable in your situation. Thankfully, you can easily put an end to this automatic clip creation. Just select Preferences from the iMovie 3 menu and deselect the Automatically Start New Clip At Scene Break option.

This may not completely free you from multiple clips. iMovie limits clips to 2GB (which works out to

UNSOLICITED ADVICE

When you select multiple picture files numbered in a series—Picture 01, Picture 02, and Picture 03, for example—and double-click on them, Preview doesn't display them in order. There are two ways to make the pictures appear in sequence: You can open a folder full of pictures in column view, select them all, and double click on them. You can also launch Preview, press ⌘-O to produce the Open dialog box, navigate to your pictures, ⌘-click on the pictures you want to view, and click on Open. With either method, the thumbnails will appear in the proper order.

9 minutes, 28 seconds, and 2 frames). If your video exceeds this length, iMovie automatically creates a new clip when it reaches the 2GB limit.

Broken Recording

We record the ministers in our church and then transfer the resulting audio files to a Mac, so we can make CD copies for members. We'd like to insert a break in the audio every 10 minutes, so members can choose a point at which to start listening. Is there a program that inserts such breaks automatically?

Stan Bemel, *Portland, Oregon*

I'd tackle such a project by dividing the sermons into separate, 10-minute audio files and then burning those files—in order—to CD. Creating such audio files is a cinch with HairerSoft's $25 Amadeus II (www.hairersoft.com/amadeus.html).

Just open the sound file in Amadeus (it can read AIFF, WAV, and MP3 files) and select Generate Marks from the Selection menu. In the resulting Generate Marks window, enter 10'00"000 in the Time Interval field to create markers that appear every 10 minutes in the track. Enter something in the Text field that hints at the contents of the files—Sermon1, for example. Click on OK to dismiss the window.

From the same Selection menu, choose Split According To Marks. Click on OK in the Split window that appears (see "Long Division"). In the resulting Save As sheet, designate a location for your split files, select AIFF from the Format pop-up menu, and click on Save. Amadeus will split your file into 10-minute increments and sequentially number the segments—Sermon1 01, Sermon1 02, and Sermon1 03, for example.

Load these segments into iTunes and then into a playlist, ensure that they're in the proper order, and burn them to disc.

Missing Link

Is there any way to connect a number of tunes in iTunes, for background music behind a long slide show?

Bill Semplice, *Wethersfield, Connecticut*

I haven't found a slide-show application that can do this. However, there's no reason you couldn't stitch together the tunes you'd like to play during your slide show. The free way to do this is to import into iMovie 3 the songs you want to join.

Click on the Audio button in iMovie and drag the songs you want to string together into iMovie's timeline (these songs can be in any audio format iTunes supports, including the protected AAC files you purchase from the iTunes Music Store). Select

Export from iMovie's File menu, and in the iMovie: Export window that appears, select To QuickTime from the Export pop-up menu. Choose Expert Settings from the Formats pop-up menu and click on the Export button. In the resulting Save Exported File As window, choose Sound To AIFF from the Export pop-up menu; then name and save the file. Your tunes are now contained in a single audio file you can use to accompany your slide show.

If you're willing to convert your slide show into a QuickTime movie, you can create the entire slide show in iMovie. Add nothing except still clips to your movie, drag the song files you want to use into iMovie's soundtrack, adjust the length of the still pictures so they fit the length of your soundtrack, and then export your creation as a Quick-Time movie. ☐
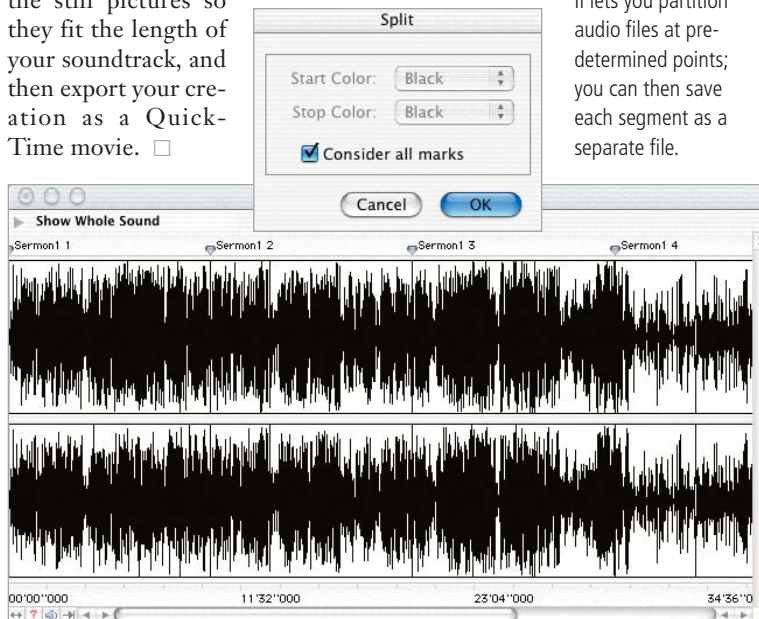
Long Division
HairerSoft's Amadeus II lets you partition audio files at predetermined points; you can then save each segment as a separate file.

Yes, there are *so* secrets of the iPod, and you can find every one of them in the aptly named *Secrets of the iPod,* third edition (Peachpit Press, 2003), by Contributing Editor CHRISTOPHER BREEN.

Mac 911

LIKE JAGUAR BEFORE IT, APPLE'S LATEST OS RELEASE, MAC OS X 10.3 (Panther), is a cool cat—but one that needs taming from time to time. In this special edition of *Mac 911*, I offer techniques for doing just that. Whether you want to change keyboard shortcuts, quit stubborn background processes, create custom screen savers, or bring your networked Windows printer into the fold, I have the answers you've been looking for (and a few more you didn't even know you needed).

When Force Quit Doesn't

When attempting to log out of my account in Panther, I receive a message saying Mirror Agent refused to quit and that I must quit it before I can proceed. I've tried selecting Force Quit from the Apple menu, but Mirror Agent doesn't appear in the Force Quit Applications window. How do I quit applications I can't see?

Stephen Dale, *San Francisco, California*

In the days before Panther you would have to launch Process Viewer (Applications: Utilities: Process Viewer), select the process or application you wanted to quit, and then select Quit Process from the Processes menu. However, if you're using Panther, you may have noticed that Process Viewer is conspicuously absent from the Utilities folder.

Not to worry: Apple simply combined Process Viewer and CPU Monitor into a new utility called Activity Monitor. In addition to telling you what your Mac is up to—by displaying CPU usage as well as statistics regarding disk activity and network activity—Activity Monitor also allows you to quit background processes and applications. To do this, just select the process you want to kill from within the application's Activity Monitor window and click on the Quit Process button in the toolbar.

Note that some processes—the Mirror Agent process, for instance—have a nasty habit of restarting themselves. Should this happen, be ready to invoke the log-out command (⌘-shift-Q) as soon as you quit the process. With fleet fingers, you'll log out of Mirror Agent before it has a chance to restart.

By the way, Process Viewer isn't the only program to find a new home in Panther. Apple merged the functions of some applications and system preferences into single entities in Panther. For example, Panther's Accounts preference pane combines the functionality of Jaguar's Accounts and Login Items preferences.

Resolve Keyboard Conflicts

In OS 9 I was accustomed to pressing ⌘-option-D to invoke QuarkXPress's Step And Repeat command. But now that I'm running Quark in Classic (I haven't upgraded to QuarkXPress 6), the Dock's Turn Hiding Off command overrides that keyboard shortcut. Is there a way to get around this?

Rachel Ortiz, *Cicero, Indiana*

To fix this problem in Jaguar, you had to change Quark's keyboard shortcut with the help of a keyboard macro application such as Michael Kamprath's free Keyboard Maestro (▼▼▼½; "More Mac Software Bargains," May 2003) or Script Software's $20 iKey, formerly known as Youpi Key (www.scriptsoftware.com). Thankfully, Panther lets you change many of the system's default keyboard shortcuts without these measures.

To make the change, open the Keyboard & Mouse system preference, click on the Keyboard Shortcuts button, and scroll down to the Automatically Hide And Show The Dock entry (see "Keyboard Capers"). Click once on the ⌘-option-D entry to highlight it, and then press a different collection of keys—shift-⌘-option-D, for example. The shortcut you enter will show/hide the Dock, leaving you free to take advantage of QuarkXPress's built-in shortcuts.

Self-Made Slide Shows

I love Mac OS X's slide-show screen effects. How can I create a slide show of my own?

Charles Grace, *El Cajon, California*

First, gather the pictures that you want to appear in the screen saver into a single folder. Then open the Desktop & Screen Saver system preference, click on the Screen Saver button, and select the Choose Folder entry in the Screen Savers list. In the resulting sheet,

Keyboard Capers
Don't care for Panther's default key commands? Change them in the Keyboard & Mouse system preference.

On	Description	Shortcut
☑	Focus on Dock	^F3
☑	Focus on Window (active) or next window	^F4
☑	Focus on Toolbar	^F5
☑	Focus on Utility window (palette)	^F6
☑	Rotate Windows	⌘ `
☑	Toggle focus for any control within windows	^F7
☑	▼ Dock	
☑	Automatically hide and show the Dock	⌘⌥D
	▼ Application Keyboard Shortcuts	
	▶ All Applications	

navigate to the folder you created. That folder should now appear in the list of available Screen Savers (see "Picture This"). Select it and you're good to go.

However, if you happen to have an archived copy of Jaguar on your Mac—or if you haven't made the switch to Panther—you have a more flexible option. Open the archive and go to Library: Image Capture: Scripts. Drag your folder of pictures to the Build Slide Show application. When you release the mouse button, the pictures within that folder will begin playing as a screen saver. Open the Desktop & Screen Saver system preference and you'll notice that a new Recent Photos entry appears in the list of available effects. This selection always displays the last group of pictures you dragged to the Build Slide Show script.

What's nice about the Build Slide Show application is that you can save slide shows to your Desktop & Screen Effects preferences for reuse. To save the slide show you've created, open your Screen Savers folder (Home: Library: Screen Savers) and rename the Recent Photos.slideSaver file (keeping the .slideSaver extension). Once renamed, the slide show will remain in the Desktop & Screen Effects system preference as an additional selection.

Security Blanket

I miss OS 9's Password Security control panel. Is there a way I can protect my PowerBook in Panther?

Arthur Melehan, *Detroit, Michigan*

Indeed there is. You can use Panther's FileVault—a feature that encrypts the contents of your Home folder and, thus, all of the files in your Documents, Music, Movies, Pictures, and Desktop folders.

To activate FileVault, launch System Preferences, select the Security item, and click on the Turn On File-Vault option. You'll need to create a Master password, which can unlock any folders FileVault protects. After you create the password you'll be asked for your administrator's password. Once you enter this password, FileVault takes command of your computer and begins encrypting your files. Unless you have tens of gigabytes of files in your Home folder, the encryption process should require about as much time as it takes to brew and drink a cup of coffee.

When FileVault finishes, your user folder will bear the FileVault icon (a gray house with a padlock), indicating that the folder is protected. If anyone logged in under a different account attempts to open your user folder, he or she will be told they don't have sufficient access privileges to do so.

If you're looking for even more uncompromising protection—the kind that prevents others from booting your Mac with a CD or holding the option key at startup to choose a different volume—you should consider creating an Open Firmware password. Your Mac won't boot for anyone who doesn't know this password.

To enable the Open Firmware password, download
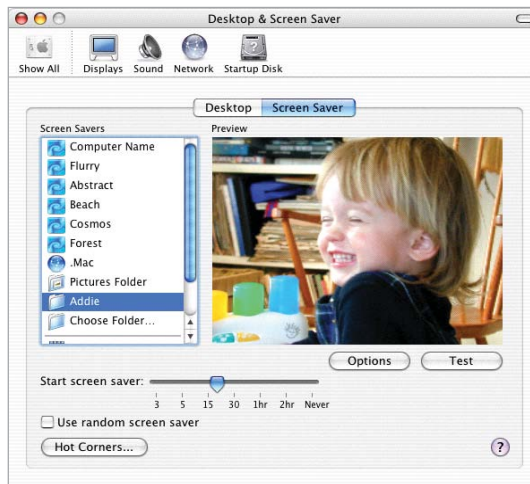
Picture This Panther can create a screen saver from the pictures stored in the folder of your choice.

the Open Firmware Password 1.0.2 utility (http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=120095). Run the utility and select the Require Password To Change Open Firmware Settings option. Create and verify a new password, and then click on the Change button. The protection will kick in the next time you restart your Mac.

If for some reason you don't have online access, there is another (though more difficult) way. Hold down ⌘-option-O-F at startup to boot into Open Firmware. When you see the Open Firmware prompt, type password. When prompted, enter the password you wish to use and verify it. Now type setenv security-mode full. Finally, type reset-all to restart your Mac.

Note that Open Firmware passwords *must not* contain a *U* (capital *u*) character. If you create a password with this forbidden character, the Mac won't accept the password and will refuse to boot.

To disable password protection, you can either run the Open Firmware Password utility and uncheck the Require Password To Change Open Firmware Settings option or boot back into Open Firmware and, when prompted, type setenv security-mode none, enter your password, and type reset-all to restart your Mac.

Pretend Printer

Is there a way to create a virtual PostScript file printer in Mac OS X 10.3?

Jon Taie, *Virginia Beach, Virginia*

Before I reveal the trick to doing this, let's discuss why you'd want to do such a thing.

To print a file on any computer with an attached PostScript printer—a high-end printer at a printing service bureau, for example—you must save the document as a PostScript file. But you can't do this unless your Mac is actually connected to a PostScript printer (or something very much like a PostScript printer). If you don't have such a printer, you must create a virtual one.

To create a virtual PostScript printer, launch the Printer Setup Utility (Applications: Utilities) and click on the Add button in the Printer List window. In the resulting sheet, select IP Printing from the first pop-

Spelling Champ
cocoAspell makes Mac OS X's meager spelling dictionary far more comprehensive.

up menu and leave the Printer Type set to LPD/LPR. In the Printer Address field, type in localhost. Finally, select Generic from the Printer Model pop-up menu and then click on the Add button.

Now, when you want to save a file as a PostScript document, select Print from the File menu of the application you're working in and then select the newly created localhost printer from the Printer pop-up menu. Choose Output Options from the Copies & Pages pop-up menu, enable the Save As File option, and select PostScript from the Format pop-up menu. Click on Save. In the resulting Save To File dialog box, name the file and click again on Save.

You now have a PostScript document. Double-clicking this file will open it as a PDF file in Preview.

Another OS X Spelling Checker
Is there a way to change the spelling checker Apple's Mail application uses?
Walt Vennell, *Macworld Forums*

If I divine the intention of your question correctly, you're less than impressed with OS X's built-in spelling checker. While I couldn't be happier that OS X includes a system-wide spelling checker that works with multiple applications such as Mail, TextEdit, Project Builder, and OmniWeb, I have to agree that the capabilities of this particular checker are a little thin. More often than not, it offers a woefully limited number of spelling suggestions.

Thankfully, there's an alternative: Anton Leuski's free cocoAspell (www-ciir.cs.umass.edu/~leouski/cocoaspell), a Mac OS X implementation of the free, open-source Aspell spelling checker.

To install the downloaded utility, first drop the cocoAspell.service file into the Services folder of the appropriate Library folder. If you want all users to have access to the spelling checker, place it in the Library folder at the root level of your OS X volume. If you'll be the sole beneficiary of cocoAspell's services, use the Library folder in your user folder. If no Services folder exists within this Library folder, create one. Next, place the Spelling.prefPane folder in the PreferencePanes folder of the Library folder you've chosen. Again, if no PreferencePanes folder exists, create one.

Log out and then log in again. Open the Spelling system preference; when requested, locate the cocoAspell.service file in the appropriate Library folder. Next, enable the dictionaries you want to use. In addition to the generic English option, cocoAspell includes dictionaries for American English, British English, and Canadian English. Leuski has compiled additional dictionaries for Breton, Catalan, Czech, Danish, Dutch, German, Esperanto, Faeroese, French, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish—all of which you can download from the site. Log out and in once more to enable cocoAspell.

To access your new dictionaries within an application such as Mail, create a new message, open the Edit menu's Spelling submenu, and choose the Spelling command. In the resulting dialog box, select the appropriate dictionary from the Dictionary pop-up menu. All cocoAspell dictionaries have *(Aspell)* appended to their names—American English (Aspell), for example (see "Spelling Champ"). Once you've done this, you'll notice that the list of spelling suggestions increases by leaps and bounds.

Monitoring the Family
Members of my family refuse to use their own user accounts on our Mac. Since our Mac automatically logs in with my account, they change my settings and proceed with their work. Fortunately, they typically limit their fiddling to the sound level, monitor resolution, and Dock size.

I can quickly change the sound and Dock back to my preferred settings, but adjusting the monitor resolution is a nuisance because the resolution and refresh rate that I want is not listed in the Displays pull-down menu. Is there an easier way to revive my settings than opening the Displays system preference?
Tim Collins, *Marshfield, Wisconsin*

Tim, I'd like to take the liberty of providing the solution you seek while also butting into your family's business.

Let's start with the solution to your resolution problem. Venture to www.madrau.com and download a copy of Stéphane Madrau's $15 SwitchRes X. This handy utility places a small icon in the Mac's menu bar that includes *all* the resolutions your monitor is capable of displaying. If you're the tinkering type, you can also ask SwitchRes X to display unsupported resolutions. But be careful here: You could create a setting that your monitor can't display, and this can cause some monitors to display a dark screen until you reset the Mac's parameter RAM (by pressing ⌘-option-P-R at startup).

But at the risk of causing discord around the dining-room table, I'd like to suggest that you avoid this problem altogether by configuring the Mac to require each user to log in with his or her own password. That way Mom, Dad, and sister Bernice's computing environment will be configured exactly the way they like from the minute they log on—no need to mess about with another family member's settings.

To do so in Panther, open the Accounts system preference while using an account that has Administrator privileges. Click on the Login Options item at the bottom of the Account pane, and uncheck the Automatically Log In As option. Repeat this procedure for each account on the Mac to prevent other users from automatically logging in as a particular user. From this day forward, you and your family will be required to enter your own passwords when logging in or when switching to another account with Panther's Fast User Switching feature.

Terms of Services

How do I get the items in the Services menu to work? For example, I want to grab a screen shot, but in every application I've tried, the Grab command's options are grayed out.

Sean T. O'Brien, *Charlottesville, Virginia*

As you've discovered, the services listed under the Finder menu's Services command only work in Cocoa applications—applications such as TextEdit and Safari written in OS X's Cocoa environment—and in those rare Carbon applications that were specifically written to support services. This leaves applications such as AppleWorks or Microsoft Word—as well as any Classic applications—out in the cold.

The Grab service is even more limited. Services are incapable of creating documents, which means the Grab service can't act like the similarly named Grab application (or even the ⌘-shift-3 keyboard shortcut) to take a screen shot and save it as a separate document. Instead, the Grab service can only add a capture to a document currently open in a supported Cocoa application. For example, if you have an RTF document open and active in TextEdit, the Grab service can capture a screen and place the resulting capture into the RTF document.

Inflexible File

There's a StuffIt file on my OS X Desktop that I'm unable to delete. Its icon is a file with a rip through the middle. When I attempt to trash the file I get a warning saying, "Item is being used by another task right now." Is there a way to get rid of it?

Daniel Fishbein, *Davis, California*

If you intend to trash only a single file, you can do that from Terminal (found in the Utilities folder). In the Terminal window type rm -f and then a space, drag the problem file onto the Terminal window to enter its path, and then press return. Your Mac will automatically delete the file without requesting confirmation.

To trash a folder (or, in Unix lingo, a *directory*), type rm -R and then a space. Again, drag the problem folder into Terminal to enter its path, and then press

UNSOLICITED ADVICE

Every so often I'm approached by readers who, with a hint of embarrassment, admit that a Windows PC—complete with connected printer—makes up a portion of his or her home network. In the course of conversation, they invariably ask, "Is there a way for me to print to that printer from one of my Macs running OS X?"

"As long as you're running Panther, it's a cinch," I respond. I qualify my answer because attempting to print to a Windows printer under earlier versions of OS X was a wrenching experience. But, Panther greatly simplifies the process.

As a writer for *Macworld* it falls outside my purview to explain how to share a printer under Windows. Suffice it to say, such a printer must be shared in order for this scheme to work.

Once you've configured Windows, open Panther's Print Setup Utility and click on the Add button in the Printer List window. In the resulting sheet, select Windows Printing from the first pop-up menu. In the second pop-up menu, select the appropriate entry for your setup (Workgroup or Network Neighborhood). If you're lucky, your printer will appear in the list. If it does, select its name and click on the Choose button; the printer will be added to the list of printers available to your Mac.

If you're a little less lucky—for example, if your PC belongs to a workgroup called something other than Workgroup—you may have to click through a series of entries in the list until you arrive at the name of your printer. For example, because my PC's workgroup is called MSHOME, I must select the MSHOME entry that appears in the list, click on Choose, click on PC (the name of the computer in my workgroup), and then click again on Choose. Finally, I click on HPLaser (the laser printer attached to the PC) and then click one last time on Choose to add the printer to the list of available printers (see "PC Printing").
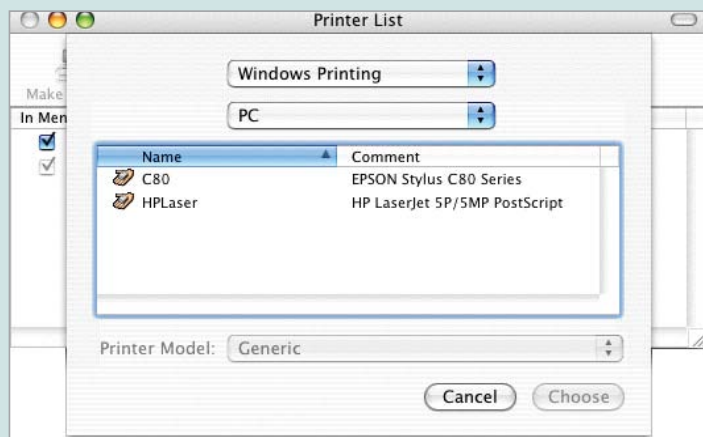
PC Printing For cross-platform homes and businesses, Panther makes it much easier to access a printer attached to a networked PC.

return. But be very careful with rm -R because that -R means *recursive* and it indicates that the directory and all of its contents will be immediately deleted—not just placed in the Trash, but *vaporized* without warning. Should you drag the wrong folder into Terminal and press return, it's gone. Worse yet, if you type rm -R *, all the contents of the selected directory (which is most likely your user folder) will be expunged. □